

Abstract of the Disclosure

Apparatus and a method employable in a wireless communication network for managing, among plural communication stations in a group of such stations, bandwidth-sharing of available, unused bandwidth. Implementation and practice of the invention involve (a) establishing a pattern of periodic beacon transmissions having a defined first time spacing between time-next-adjacent transmissions, which transmissions are designed, nominally, to convey bandwidth-availability (transmission-budget) announcements to stations in the group, (b) from within this pattern, choosing a sub-pattern of selected, periodic beacon transmissions having a defined second time spacing between time-next-adjacent, chosen sub-pattern transmissions, which second time spacing encompasses a predetermined number of the beacon transmissions having the mentioned first time spacing, and then (c) utilizing only the selected beacon transmissions in this sub-pattern to convey the announcements of any new (changed) transmission-budget information